

# **HORSE SPORT IRELAND**

## **GENERAL RULES**

**Horse Sport Ireland  
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## **1. Application of General Rules**

- 1.1 These General Rules shall apply to:-
  - 1.1.1 any Athlete who is licensed by Horse Sport Ireland;
  - 1.1.2 any Athlete who applies for a license from Horse Sport Ireland from the time he or she submits the application for a licence; and
  - 1.1.3 any Owner of a Horse used by an Athlete representing Ireland in an International Event.
  
- 1.2 By virtue of holding an International Licence or applying for an International Licence in the case of an Athlete, or by virtue of his or her Horse being used by an Athlete to represent Ireland in an International Event in the case of an Owner, each Athlete and Owner shall be deemed to have agreed to be bound by and to comply with these General Rules. Accordingly, each Athlete and Owner shall be deemed to have agreed:
  - 1.2.1 To be bound by and to comply strictly with these General Rules, without prejudice to any other rules applicable to him or her;
  - 1.2.2 To submit to the authority of Horse Sport Ireland, the Disciplinary Committee and CAS, as applicable;
  - 1.2.3 To provide all requested assistance to Horse Sport Ireland, the Disciplinary Committee and CAS, as applicable, in the application, policing and enforcement of these General Rules including (without limitation) co-operating fully with any investigation or proceedings being conducted pursuant to these General Rules;
  - 1.2.4 To submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Committee and CAS to hear and determine alleged breaches of these General Rules; and
  - 1.2.5 Further to Article 16.4, not to bring any proceedings in any court or other forum that are inconsistent with the foregoing submission to the

jurisdiction of Horse Sport Ireland, the Disciplinary Committee and CAS.

- 1.3 By virtue of the application of these General Rules to Athletes and Owners, each Affiliate and Section of Horse Sport Ireland shall abide by the spirit and terms of these General Rules and shall respect the authority of and cooperate with, Horse Sport Ireland, the Disciplinary Committee and CAS on all matters to which these General Rules relate.

## **2. Licensing of Athletes**

- 2.1 In order to participate in an International Event an Athlete must hold a current, valid International Licence.
- 2.2 Each Athlete must be a fully paid up or subscribed member of the relevant Affiliate or a subscriber to the relevant Section of Horse Sport Ireland for his or her particular Horse Sport in order to apply for or hold an International Licence.
- 2.3 Each Affiliate must pay to Horse Sport Ireland its respective Affiliate Subscription Fee.
- 2.4 At the discretion of the Board of Horse Sport Ireland, an Affiliate's Athletes may not be licensed until that Affiliate has paid the Affiliate Subscription Fees owed to Horse Sport Ireland by the Affiliate.
- 2.5 Athletes who are subscribers to a Section must pay to Horse Sport Ireland a Subscription Fee to be set by the Board.
- 2.6 An Athlete who is a subscriber to a Section shall not be licensed until he or she has paid any fees, including Subscription Fees, owed to Horse Sport Ireland by the Athlete.
- 2.7 Athletes must complete and sign the Competitor's Licence and FEI Registration Form before Horse Sport Ireland will issue an International Licence.
- 2.8 Any omission from, and/or inaccuracy in, the Competitor's Licence and FEI Registration Form may result in the refusal or revocation of the Athlete's International Licence by Horse Sport Ireland.

- 2.9 Without prejudice to the application of Article 2.8, the submission by an Athlete, or on his or her behalf, of a licence application form containing misleading or fraudulent information shall be a breach of these General Rules.
- 2.10 Failure by the Athlete to comply with the Terms and Conditions of the International Licence shall be a breach of these General Rules.

### **3. Passport and registration of Horse(s)**

- 3.1 A Horse may only compete in an International Event with a valid FEI or national passport and after being registered with the FEI.
- 3.2 Horse Sport Ireland shall issue the FEI passport for the Horse when required in accordance with the FEI General Regulations subject to payment of the appropriate fee.
- 3.3 A registration fee to be set by the Board shall be paid by the Owner(s) or on behalf of the Owner(s) to Horse Sport Ireland.
- 3.4 Horse Sport Ireland may impose conditions on the registration of a Horse in addition to a registration fee.

### **4. Selection of Athlete and/or Horse to Irish international team**

- 4.1 Athletes and Horses shall be selected to the Irish international team by the Chef d'Equipe, team manager or selection committee, as applicable, subject to the approval of Horse Sport Ireland.
- 4.2 If an Athlete is selected by the Chef d'Equipe, team manager or selection committee, as applicable, to represent Ireland, the Athlete must compete for Ireland unless the Athlete has a valid reason not to compete. If the Athlete is selected to represent Ireland with a specific Horse, the Athlete must compete for Ireland using the specified Horse, unless the Athlete has a valid reason not to compete using the specified Horse.
- 4.3 Failure by an Athlete to compete for Ireland or to compete for Ireland with a specific Horse in breach of this Article 4 shall be a breach of these General Regulations notwithstanding the selection of an alternative Athlete to compete in

his or her stead.

4.4 Where the Athlete believes that he or she has a valid reason not to compete or not to compete using the specified Horse, the Athlete must alert the Chef d'Equipe, team manager or selection committee, as applicable, as to his or her reason for refusing to compete for Ireland or refusing to compete using the specified Horse as soon as possible and in any event no later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the date and time Definite Entries are due as prescribed by the organising committee of the International Event. In that eventuality the following provisions shall apply:-

4.4.1 The Chef d'Equipe, team manager or selection committee, as applicable, shall make a determination as to the validity of the reason for the decision by the Athlete to refuse to compete for Ireland or refuse to compete using the specified Horse. In making this determination the Chef d'Equipe, team manager or selection committee, as applicable, may require medical evidence from the Athlete or a Horse inspection by the Team Veterinarian.

4.4.2 If the Chef d'Equipe, team manager or selection committee, as applicable, determines that the reason for the decision to refuse to compete for Ireland or refuse to compete using the specified Horse is valid, the selection of the Athlete and/or Horse is rescinded.

4.4.3 If the Chef d'Equipe, team manager or selection committee, as applicable, determines that the reason is not valid, the Chef d'Equipe, team manager or selection committee, as applicable, may rescind the selection and/or refer the matter to the Disciplinary Officer.

4.5 Where an Athlete fails to alert the Chef d'Equipe, team manager or selection committee, as applicable, of his or her refusal to compete or refusal to compete using the specified Horse no later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the date and time Definite Entries are due as prescribed by the organising committee of the International Event, the failure shall be a breach of these General Rules unless the Athlete reasonably could not have known of the reasons for the refusal no later than twenty-four (24) hours before the date and time Definite Entries are due.

- 4.6 Conditions may be placed on an Athlete and/or Horse by the Chef d'Equipe, team manager or selection committee, as applicable as part of the selection to the Irish international team. The Athlete must indicate his or her availability or his or her Horse's availability to comply with all reasonable conditions and thereafter comply with and/or ensure his or her Horse's compliance with such conditions. Failure to comply with this Article 4.6 shall be a breach of these General Rules.

## **5. Invitation to International Events**

- 5.1 All invitations to Irish Athletes to compete at International Events must come through Horse Sport Ireland. It is the responsibility of the Athlete to ensure that he or she, and those acting on his or her behalf, comply with this requirement.
- 5.2 If an Athlete receives a personal invitation to an International Event his or her entry must be approved by Horse Sport Ireland and Horse Sport Ireland has the right to refuse to approve the entry of the Athlete for a stated reason.
- 5.3 If Horse Sport Ireland receives an invitation for a named Athlete to an International Event, Horse Sport Ireland has the right to refuse to approve the entry of the named Athlete for a stated reason.

## **6. Entry in International Events**

- 6.1 An Athlete may request Horse Sport Ireland to enter him or her in a particular International Event but Horse Sport Ireland has the right to refuse to enter the Athlete in the particular International Event for a stated reason.
- 6.2 Without limitation to the generality of this Article 6, reasons for which Horse Sport Ireland may refuse to enter, or refuse to approve the entry of, an Athlete into a particular International Event include:-
- 6.2.1 The Athlete and/or Horse is insufficiently capable at the level at which the Athlete wishes to compete;
- 6.2.2 Horse Sport Ireland is not satisfied that the Athlete is medically fit and/or the Horse is veterinarily fit to compete;
- 6.2.3 The Athlete and/or Horse is required to represent Ireland at another

International Event;

6.2.4 It is the view of Horse Sport Ireland that the invitation to the International Event should be allocated to another Athlete with the agreement of the Organising Committee;

6.2.5 It is not in the best interests of preparing the Athlete and/or Horse for future events for the Athlete or Horse to compete in a particular International Event; or

6.2.6 The Athlete has been suspended by the FEI, Horse Sport Ireland or his or her Affiliate or Section.

6.3 The decision on whether to enter, or to approve the entry of, an Athlete into a particular International Event shall be made by Horse Sport Ireland.

6.4 Failure of an Athlete to enter, or to be entered, in an International Event in compliance with this Article 6 may result in cancellation of the Athlete's entry into the International Event or withdrawal of the Athlete from the International Event by the Chef d'Equipe or team manager, as applicable, or by the Secretary General.

## **7. Withdrawal from International Events**

7.1 Once the Definite Entries are made, substitutions of Athletes and/or Horses may only be made with the express permission of the organising committee of the International Event and in accordance with the FEI General Regulations.

7.2 An Athlete who is declared as a Definite Entry to an International Event may only withdraw from the International Event in accordance with the FEI General Regulations.

7.3 If an Athlete proposes to withdraw from an International Event after the date and time Definite Entries are due as prescribed by the organising committee of the International Event the Athlete must immediately inform the Chef d'Equipe or team manager, as applicable, or the relevant High Performance Administrator if there is no Chef d'Equipe or team manager, of his or her proposed withdrawal and the reasons for the proposed withdrawal.

- 7.4 Failure by the Athlete to inform Horse Sport Ireland as set out in Article 7.3 shall be a breach of these General Rules.
- 7.5 Notwithstanding any other provisions of these General Rules, the Secretary General shall, after consultation with the Chairman of Horse Sport Ireland, have the power to request an Athlete to whom these General Rules apply to withdraw from an International Event for a stated reason. The Secretary General may make such a request of his or her own accord or upon consultation with the relevant Affiliate. Should the Athlete fail to comply with the request to withdraw, the Secretary General shall have the power to withdraw the Athlete from the International Event if the Secretary General deems it appropriate. Any such decision of the Secretary General shall be final and binding.

## **8. Conduct of Athlete at International Events**

- 8.1 All Athletes shall at all times be mindful that they are representing Ireland while preparing to compete or competing in an International Event, travelling to an International Event, or present in the environs of the International Event, and shall act accordingly. This applies to Athletes participating as part of a team or as individuals.
- 8.2 Athletes are subject to the code of conduct as implemented and amended from time to time by Horse Sport Ireland (the current version of which is attached at Annex 1) as well as any codes of conduct issued by the Chef d'Equipe or team manager, as applicable, for their own team.
- 8.3 Athletes who are participating as part of a team in an International Event or who are representing Ireland as individuals at an FEI championship shall wear, while competing and throughout the days of the competition the attire designated by Horse Sport Ireland. Athletes shall ensure that Horses representing Ireland in the Nations Cup, or in FEI championships are presented in rugs and other kit designated by Horse Sport Ireland. Failure to comply with any such requirements shall be a breach of these General Rules.

- 8.4 An Athlete shall be responsible for the actions or omissions of his or her groom when representing Ireland and shall ensure that his or her groom conducts himself or herself in accordance with any applicable code of conduct.
- 8.5 If an Athlete (or groom for whom the Athlete is responsible) breaches any applicable code of conduct, be it issued by Horse Sport Ireland, a Chef d'Equipe or team manager, the breach shall be a breach of these General Rules by the Athlete, unless, in the case of a breach based upon the actions of his or her groom, the Athlete can establish that he or she took all reasonable steps to stop or prevent the act or omission at issue of the groom.
- 8.6 Nothing in Article 8.5 shall prevent the Chef d'Equipe or team manager, as applicable, from exercising the power to take such action including, where circumstances warrant, the withdrawal of an Athlete from a particular International Event in order to ensure the integrity, efficacy and reputation of the Irish team.
- 8.7 Athletes are responsible for the behaviour at International Events of their Known Partisans and it is the responsibility of the Athlete to inform his or her Known Partisans that their behaviour will reflect upon the Athlete and may result in the imposition of sanctions upon the Athlete.
- 8.8 During the Period of an Event, Chefs d'Equipe and team managers have the right to ask (or instruct an Athlete to so ask) Known Partisans to disperse from any area in the environs of an International Event which is not normally open to the public or to terminate any inappropriate behaviour.
- 8.9 Horse Sport Ireland reserves the right to instruct an Athlete to ensure that particular Known Partisans are not in attendance at International Events or training events.
- 8.10 It shall be a breach of these General Rules by the Athlete if an Athlete's Known Partisan(s) continues to engage in any inappropriate behaviour after being asked to cease such behaviour or attends an International Event or training event after Horse Sport Ireland instructed the Athlete to ensure that the particular Known Partisan(s) was not in attendance, unless the Athlete can establish that he or she

took all reasonable steps to stop or prevent the act or omission at issue of the Known Partisan.

8.11 It is the Athlete's responsibility to ensure that he or she has all the required and appropriate documentation available and up-to-date upon arrival at an International Event.

8.12 Medication and Anti-Doping Control Logbook

8.12.1 Horse Sport Ireland may require an Athlete to prepare and submit a Medication and Anti-Doping Control Logbook in relation to a specified Horse(s) as instructed. Failure to comply fully and within the required specified time shall be a breach of these General Rules.

8.12.2 Once a Medication and Anti-Doping Control Logbook has been submitted prior to an International Event, Athletes must seek permission from the Team Veterinarian for any veterinary treatments for the relevant Horse or if the Athlete wishes to use any new product or substance which is not included in the Medication and Anti-Doping Control Logbook for the relevant Horse(s).

8.12.3 Any omission or inaccuracy in the Medication and Anti-Doping Control Logbook in respect of any substance used or in relation to the details of how the substance was administered, what quantity it was administered in and in what dosage, shall be a breach of these General Rules by the Athlete concerned.

8.12.4 The appointed person to whom the Medication and Anti-doping Control Logbook is submitted and the Team Veterinarian shall treat the Medication and Anti-Doping Control Logbook and its contents as confidential unless and until it becomes necessary to disclose the contents:

8.12.4.1 to the Chef d'Equipe or Secretary General if the Team Veterinarian considers it necessary to prevent the Athlete or Horse from competing while potentially in contravention of the FEI Anti-Doping and Medication

Control Programme;

8.12.4.2 to the Secretary General or his or her nominee if a sample from the Horse is found to be positive at the relevant event; or

8.12.4.3 to the appropriate personnel at the Olympic Council of Ireland upon request of the Olympic Council of Ireland.

8.12.5 Once the testing process in relation to the relevant event is completed the Medication and Anti-Doping Control Logbook shall be destroyed. The testing process shall be considered completed once any issues arising from the testing have reached conclusion.

8.12.6 Once a Horse goes through the Horse inspection at an International Event where a Chef d'Equipe and/or Team Veterinarian is present, the Athlete shall not engage with any veterinarian other than the Team Veterinarian or the appointed FEI veterinarian without the express permission of the Team Veterinarian or Chef d'Equipe.

8.13 Any act or omission by an Athlete which brings Horse Sport Ireland or Horse Sport into disrepute shall be a breach of these General Rules.

## **9. Conduct of Owners at International Events**

9.1 Owners are subject to the code of conduct as implemented and amended from time to time by Horse Sport Ireland (the current version of which is attached at Annex 1) as well as any applicable codes of conduct issued by the Chef d'Equipe or team manager, as applicable, for their own team.

9.2 An Owner shall also be subject to any codes of conduct issued by the Chef d'Equipe or team manager, as applicable, for their own team.

9.3 If an Owner breaches any code of conduct, be it issued by Horse Sport Ireland, a Chef d'Equipe or team manager, the breach shall be a breach of these General Rules.

9.4 Any act or omission by an Owner which brings Horse Sport Ireland or Horse

Sport into disrepute shall be a breach of these General Rules.

## **10. Disciplinary Committee**

- 10.1 A Disciplinary Committee shall be established by the Board to determine alleged breaches of these General Rules.
- 10.2 The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of nine (9) persons three (3) of whom shall each be a solicitor, barrister or judge. One of these three shall serve as Chair of the Disciplinary Committee and the other two shall serve as Vice-Chairs of the Disciplinary Committee.
- 10.3 Each member of the Disciplinary Committee shall be appointed for a term of five (5) years.
- 10.4 If a member dies or resigns the Board may appoint a new member to fill the resultant vacancy. The member so appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of the term of the member who occasioned the vacancy.
- 10.5 Each member shall be appointed on the basis that he or she is in a position to hear issues referred to the Disciplinary Committee under these General Rules fairly and impartially.
- 10.6 The Disciplinary Committee has the power to hear and determine all issues referred to it in accordance with these General Rules.

## **11. Disciplinary Process**

- 11.1 Where a matter arises that may constitute a breach of these General Rules, the Disciplinary Officer shall decide whether or not to allege a breach of these General Rules against an Athlete or Owner.
  - 11.1.1 In making this determination the Disciplinary Officer may consider any evidence he or she deems worthy.
  - 11.1.2 The Disciplinary Officer shall have the right to make enquiries of any individuals, seek further information in relation to the matter and seek guidance as he or she shall consider appropriate to determine whether the matter should be investigated further, dealt with otherwise or

brought forward as an alleged breach of these General Rules.

- 11.2 Where the Disciplinary Officer determines that a breach should be alleged against an Athlete or Owner, the Disciplinary Officer shall notify the Secretary General of this decision and the Secretary General shall refer the matter to the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee.
- 11.3 Where the Disciplinary Officer determines that a breach should not be alleged against an Athlete or Owner, the Disciplinary Officer shall notify the Secretary General of this decision and the Secretary General shall take such action as he or she believes appropriate.
- 11.4 Each Affiliate or Section may have its own disciplinary committee to deal with disciplinary matters other than alleged breaches of these General Rules and the Irish Anti-Doping Rules. An appeal arising out of a decision of the relevant disciplinary committee of the Affiliate or Section may be made exclusively to the Disciplinary Committee of Horse Sport Ireland in accordance with Article 14, if the rules of the Affiliate or Section so provide.
- 11.5 Where the rules of the Affiliate or Section provide for such an appeal, a decision of a disciplinary committee of an Affiliate or Section shall be recognised by Horse Sport Ireland once the appeal, if exercised, has been completed or after the time for such an appeal as provided for in these General Rules has lapsed and no appeal has been made.

## **12. Hearing procedures**

- 12.1 Upon receipt of a referral from the Secretary General, the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee, or a Vice-Chairman if necessary, shall form a hearing committee to consider the issue.
- 12.2 A hearing committee may consist of either one or three persons as the Chairman or a Vice-Chairman deems appropriate.
- 12.3 No member of a hearing committee may be a member of the same Affiliate or Section as the Athlete or Owner concerned.
- 12.4 A hearing committee shall have all powers necessary for, and incidental to, the

exercise of its functions to include the power to award costs as it deems appropriate.

- 12.5 Subject to these General Rules a hearing committee shall have the power to regulate its procedures.
- 12.6 Athletes and Owners shall be entitled to an in-person hearing with legal representation.
- 12.7 The Disciplinary Officer shall present the case on behalf of Horse Sport Ireland before the hearing committee.
- 12.8 Hearings of the hearing committee shall be confidential and held in private, unless the hearing committee decides otherwise
- 12.9 The hearing committee shall have the power to decide on the admissibility, relevance and weight of any evidence and shall not be bound by any legal rules in relation to such matters. Facts may be established by any reliable means, including admissions.
- 12.10 The facts established by a decision of a court or professional disciplinary tribunal of competent jurisdiction which is not the subject of a pending appeal shall be irrebuttable evidence against the Athlete or Owner to whom the decision pertained of those facts unless the Athlete or Owner establishes that the decision violated principles of natural justice.
- 12.11 Any certificate, notice, form, or other such document shall be, until the contrary is proved, sufficient evidence of:
  - 12.11.1 The qualifications and authority of any official who signed the certificate, notice, form, or other such document; and
  - 12.11.2 The facts stated in the certificate, notice, form, or other such document.
- 12.12 Each party to the proceedings shall have the right to present evidence, make submissions, call witnesses and cross-examine the witnesses of the other party subject to the hearing committee's discretion to accept testimony by telephone, written statement or submission, whether by fax, email or other means.

- 12.13 The hearing committee, at the request of one of the parties to the proceedings or on its own initiative, may require one or more parties to the proceedings to supply it and/or the other party or parties to the proceedings, within such time as the hearing committee determines, with further particulars of the case of that party, including details of all witnesses that party intends to call at any hearing together with details of the evidence to be given by those witnesses and that party shall comply with that direction.
- 12.14 The hearing committee, at the request of one of the parties to the proceedings or on its own initiative, may direct one or more parties to the proceedings to make any property, document or other thing in that party's possession or under its control available for inspection by the hearing committee and/or any other party and that party shall comply with that direction.
- 12.15 Any failure by any party to the proceedings to comply with any requirement or direction of the hearing committee, including those requirements or directions to be complied with within a truncated time schedule, shall not prevent the hearing committee from proceeding and such failure may be taken into consideration by the hearing committee when making its decision.
- 12.16 A failure by any party or their representative to attend a hearing after notification shall not prevent the hearing committee from proceeding with the hearing in their absence.
- 12.17 All hearings shall be recorded and Horse Sport Ireland shall retain the record.
- 12.18 The hearing committee may postpone or adjourn a hearing.
- 12.19 The hearing committee shall have the power, at its absolute discretion, to appoint an expert to assist or advise it. The person chosen as the expert shall have no involvement in the matter before the hearing committee and shall be free from any conflict of interest.

- 12.20 The decision of a hearing committee shall be final and binding on all parties, Horse Sport Ireland and the Affiliates and Sections unless appealed in accordance with these General Rules.
- 12.21 The decision of a hearing committee shall be notified to the Secretary General who shall ensure that the all necessary parties are notified of the decision and that the decision is enforced.

### **13. Penalties**

- 13.1 The hearing committee shall have the power to impose any penalty it deems appropriate upon an Athlete or Owner found to have breached these General Rules.
- 13.2 In particular, without limitation to the generality of the power conferred by Article 13.1, the hearing committee shall have the power to impose one or more of the following penalties on a particular Athlete for a breach by the Athlete of these General Rules:-
- 13.2.1 A formal warning;
  - 13.2.2 A formal reprimand;
  - 13.2.3 A fine;
  - 13.2.4 Withdrawal in full or part of any funding allocated to the Athlete to assist with the costs of travelling to an International Event;
  - 13.2.5 Suspension of the Athlete's International Licence for a specified period up to a maximum of the unexpired term of the licence; and/or
  - 13.2.6 A direction that no International Licence shall be granted to the Athlete by Horse Sport Ireland for a specified period.
- 13.3 In particular, without limitation to the generality of the power conferred by Article 13.1, the hearing committee shall have the power to impose one or more of the following penalties on an Owner for a breach of Article 9:-
- 13.3.1 A formal warning;

- 13.3.2 A formal reprimand;
- 13.3.3 A fine; and/or
- 13.3.4 Suspension of one or more of the Owner's horses from competing for Ireland for a specified period.

## **14. Appeals**

- 14.1 Each of the following decisions may be appealed exclusively as provided in this Article 14:-
  - 14.1.1 a decision of a hearing committee; or
  - 14.1.2 a decision of a disciplinary committee of an Affiliate or Section if the Affiliate's or Section's rules provide for such an appeal;and therefrom to CAS.
- 14.2 An appeal may be lodged by any of the following:-
  - 14.2.1 A party to the original decision;
  - 14.2.2 Horse Sport Ireland acting on its own behalf or on behalf of a Section;
  - 14.2.3 An Affiliate of Horse Sport Ireland;
- 14.3 A notice of appeal must be made in writing to the Secretary General within fourteen (14) days of the date of the original decision.
- 14.4 Upon receipt of the notice of appeal, the Secretary General shall refer the appeal to the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee who shall form an appeal committee to consider the appeal.
- 14.5 The appeal committee shall not include any members of the Disciplinary Committee who were involved in the hearing at first instance which is the subject of the appeal.
- 14.6 Subject to these General Rules the appeal committee shall have the power to regulate its procedures and subject to this power the appeal may be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Article 12.

- 14.7 The appeal committee shall have the power to impose any penalty it deems appropriate upon an Athlete or Owner found on appeal to have breached these General Rules or the national rules of an Affiliate or Section, as applicable where the appeal arises under Article 14.1.2 of these General Rules.
- 14.8 The decision of an appeal committee shall be final and binding on all parties, Horse Sport Ireland and the Affiliates and Sections unless appealed to the CAS.

## **15. Anti-doping for Athletes**

- 15.1 The anti-doping rules of Horse Sport Ireland for Athletes are the Irish Anti-Doping Rules as adopted by the Irish Sports Council on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2004 and which came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2004, as amended from time to time.
- 15.2 The rules contained in said Irish Anti-Doping Rules shall have effect and apply to each Athlete holding an International Licence.
- 15.3 For purposes of the Irish Anti-Doping Rules, Horse Sport Ireland shall be the national governing body which will present a case of an alleged anti-doping rule violation against an Athlete to whom these General Rules apply. Horse Sport Ireland shall present a case of an alleged anti-doping rule violation against an Athlete to whom these General Rules do not apply but who is a member of a Section. The relevant Affiliate shall present the case of an alleged anti-doping rule violation against an Athlete to whom these General Rules do not apply but who is a member of the relevant Affiliate.

## **16. Miscellaneous**

- 16.1 The functions of the Secretary General may be delegated to any persons he or she so designates in consultation with the Chairman of Horse Sport Ireland.
- 16.2 The final adjudications of the FEI shall be recognised and respected by Horse Sport Ireland and all Athletes and Owners to whom these General Rules apply and any sanctions imposed by the FEI shall be honoured by Horse Sport Ireland.
- 16.3 These General Rules and all matters and proceedings arising in connection with these General Rules shall be governed by the laws of Ireland.
- 16.4 To the greatest extent allowable under applicable law, any challenge to these

General Rules shall be made exclusively in accordance with the provisions of Articles 12 and 14 and shall not be made by recourse to any court or other forum.

- 16.5 Subject strictly to Article 16.4 the Courts of Ireland shall have exclusive jurisdiction in relation to these Rules and any decision made hereunder.

## 17. Interpretation

- 17.1 Save where otherwise indicated, references to Articles are references to the articles of these General Rules.

- 17.2 Unless expressly stated in these General Rules or the context requires otherwise, in these General Rules:-

17.2.1 references to “days” or “weeks” shall refer to calendar days or calendar weeks and each day shall commence at 00:00 hours;

17.2.2 words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa and words importing the masculine include references to the feminine and neuter and vice versa; and

17.2.3 the terms “including” or “includes” shall be interpreted so as not to limit the meaning of any words preceding such terms.

## 18. Definitions

- 18.1 The following words and expressions have the following meanings:-

**Affiliate:-** A separate legal entity affiliated to Horse Sport Ireland which controls the national aspects of a particular Horse Sport.

**Affiliate Subscription Fee:-** The respective annual fee set by the Board to be paid by each Affiliate to Horse Sport Ireland.

**Athlete:-** Any person taking part in a Horse Sport. Such person shall include a rider, driver, lungier or vaulter.

**Board:-** The board of directors of Horse Sport Ireland as per the Memorandum and

Articles of Association for Horse Sport Ireland.

**CAS:-** The Court of Arbitration for Sport

**Definite Entry:-** An Athlete and/or Horse which is included on the final list of Athletes and Horses entered to compete in an International Event submitted to the organising committee of the International Event.

**Disciplinary Committee:-** The committee appointed pursuant to Article 10.

**Disciplinary Officer:-** Person appointed by the Secretary General to carry out the functions as designated in these General Rules.

**FEI:-** Fédération Equestre Internationale.

**High Performance Administrator:-** personnel appointed by Horse Sport Ireland to administer the High Performance Programme for the different disciplines.

**Horse:-** A member of the genus Equus, born from a mare, including a pony, unless the context requires otherwise.

**Horse Sport:-** All equestrian disciplines governed and approved by the FEI to include dressage, jumping, eventing, driving, endurance, vaulting, reining and para-equestrian.

**International Event:-** An event organised under FEI Statutes, General Regulations and sport rules which is open to Athletes of more than four national federations.

**International Licence:-** Licence issued by Horse Sport Ireland to an Athlete before the Athlete may participate in Horse Sport at the international level.

**Known Partisans:-** Any person who attends an International Event at the invitation of or with the express consent of an Athlete.

**Medication and Anti-Doping Control Logbook:-** A written record kept by an Athlete in relation to a specified Horse when and as instructed by Horse Sport Ireland and in accordance with Article 8.12 of these General Rules.

**Owner:-** A person having a property interest in whole or in part of one or more Horses.

**Period of an Event:-** The period commencing one hour before the beginning of the first horse inspection and ending half an hour after the announcement of the final results in the relevant Horse Sport unless the sport rules for the relevant Horse Sport provide otherwise.

**Secretary General:-** The CEO of Horse Sport Ireland.

**Section:-** The personnel in Horse Sport Ireland responsible for, and the sub-committee of the Board which controls, the national aspects of a particular Horse Sport.

**Subscription Fee:-** Annual fee paid by subscribers to a Section of Horse Sport Ireland.

**Team Veterinarian:-** the veterinarian(s) appointed by Horse Sport Ireland to attend an International Event with the Irish team.